

Fair Tonight
And Tuesday.

The Washington Times

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PRESIDENT TAFT STATES ATTITUDE ON PRIMARIES

Massachusetts Legislature
Listens to Address of
Executive.

PROPERTY RIGHTS CALLED SACRED

"Assaults Upon Courts Are
Menace to Government,"
Says Speaker.

BOSTON, Mass., March 18.—Denouncing a "soap box" Presidential primary, as an "open avenue for fraud and violence," unless properly safeguarded by legal regulations, President Taft today gave his reasons for opposing a primary unless ample legal machinery is provided. The President spoke to the general court of the legislature of Massachusetts.

In discussing the agitation for the recall of judges, and the recall of judicial decisions, the President declared that it is impossible for all the people to take a direct part in all the functions of the Government. He said the Constitution founded a government "of the people, for the people, by a representative part of the people." He denied the proposition that "whatever is right is constitutional."

Deplores Agitation.

Many read a direct attack on Colonel Roosevelt in the concluding statement of the President, when after deploring the agitation against the courts and the Constitution, he said: "Responsible assaults upon the courts, either in intemperate language, or on baseless assumptions of corruption or bias, or incompetency, made by those whose statements have influence with any part of the people, are a serious menace to enduring government."

The President said in part: "One can easily discover a tendency in modern politics to exalt above the written law and above the written constitution what is called 'popular will,' as if that were a higher law to which we must all admit allegiance and, by obeying it, ignore or transgress statutory and constitutional limitation. This heresy is not stated exactly in the form of an assertion that judges and others are to ignore statutes and constitutions because of a conflict of popular will, but it is in the mere insidious proposition that plain construction of the statute or of the Constitution is to be defeated and a strained and otherwise impossible construction put upon the language of the statute or Constitution, in deference to what is supposed to be the popular will. There is no rule for ascertaining what this popular will is except the observation of imagination of the person who is appealing to it. "The continued reiteration of the proposition, 'let the people rule,' has no significance at all, and is intended otherwise than to flatter the people, is intended to be a reflection on the present time. Now, in spite of every defect in operation of our Government that could be pointed out, I do not hesitate to say that the history of the 135 years shows that the people have ruled."

Upholds the Courts.

"The occasion for these remarks is the attack upon our judiciary and the proposal by judicial recall, or recall of judicial decision to destroy its importance, and thus to take away from the arch of government the keystone. I deny that there is in the decisions of the courts, or the character of the judges, or the result of litigation, that which justifies such a radical innovation. "I do not hesitate to say that in my judgment a voluntary primary outside the law, known by its informal character as a 'soap box' primary, is worse than none; for it gives full opportunity to the ineligible electors of the other party to cast unfair votes, and without the sanction and safeguard of penal provisions in respect to casting and counting the ballots, is an open avenue for fraud and violence. Wherever full and fair notice of the election can be given, wherever adequate election safeguards can be thrown around to protect a preferential primary for the Presidency, I favor it and welcome it. "It is eminently appropriate that in every election and in the discussion of all issues that affect the republic, we should discuss and hear much of the popular will and of the people. This is a government based on popular control. But it is impossible for all the people to take direct part in all governmental functions. They must

WEATHER REPORT.

FORECAST FOR THE DISTRICT.
Fair tonight and Tuesday; moderate temperature.

TEMPERATURES.	
U. S. BUREAU.	APPELCK'S.
8 a. m. 46	8 a. m. 46
9 a. m. 48	9 a. m. 48
10 a. m. 54	10 a. m. 54
11 a. m. 56	11 a. m. 56
12 noon. 64	12 noon. 62
1 p. m. 67	1 p. m. 70
2 p. m. 68	2 p. m. 75

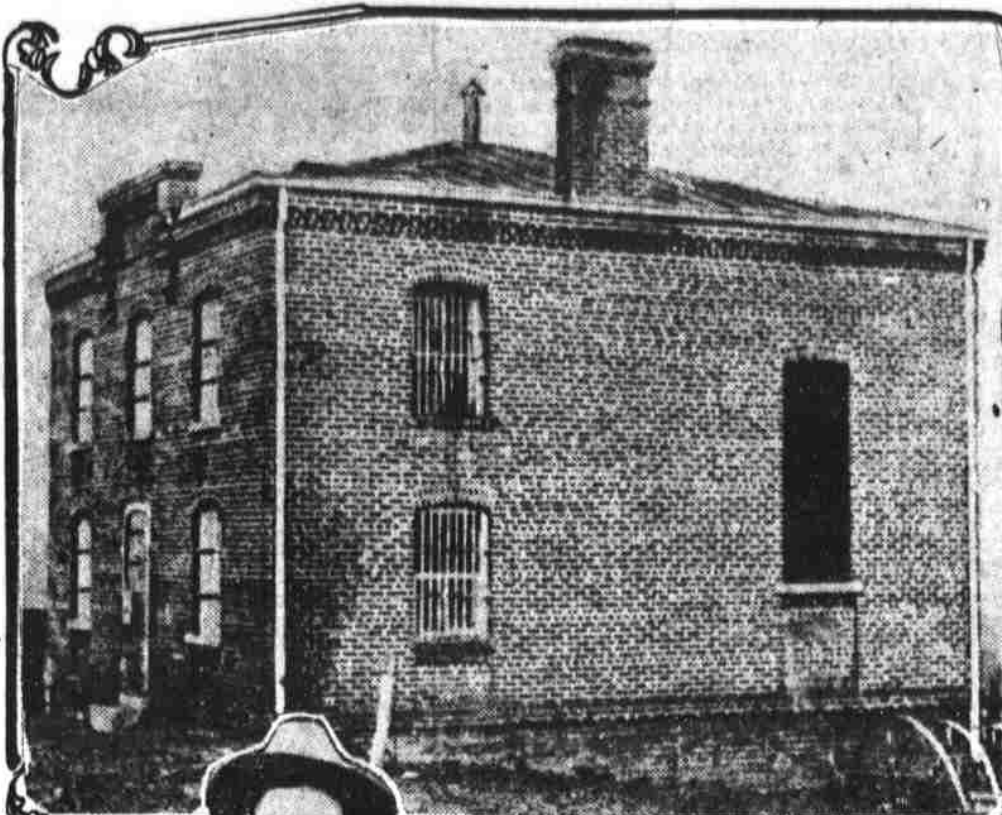
Today—High tide, 7:41 a. m. and 8:03 p. m. Low tide, 1:55 a. m. and 2:13 p. m.

Tomorrow—High tide, 8:18 a. m. and 8:42 p. m. Low tide, 2:28 a. m. and 2:52 p. m.

SUN TABLE.

Rises..... 6:08 | Sets..... 6:10

Jail at Scene of Mountain Tragedy, and Detectives Who Vow to Take Outlaws Dead or Alive



HILLSVILLE JAIL



GEORGE E. EDWARDS
ACTING SHERIFF

MR. LEECH, CITIZEN, DENIES DEMAND FOR TRANSFER REFORM

Georgetown Man Tells Congressmen Movement Is Artificial.

"There is no public clamor for universal transfers in the District of Columbia," said Frank P. Leech, who appeared before the House District Committee today, "as a private citizen."

"How would the people stand if you could vote on this proposition?" asked Congressman Dyer.

"They would not take enough interest in it to vote, unless you went around with a brass band."

In addition to Mr. Leech, who said that he appeared in answer to those who professed to represent the sentiment of the District, C. P. King, president of the Washington Railway and Electric Company, was a witness, and informed the committee that the street railway companies could not stand the financial loss, which would result from a universal transfer system.

P. V. Keating, chairman of the executive committee of the Citizens' Conference, and P. J. Ryan, chairman of the legislative committee of the Central Labor Union, were in attendance upon the hearing today, but were not heard as the committee adjourned shortly after noon.

Speaks As Private Citizen.

Mr. Leech said that although he was a member of the Georgetown Citizens' Association, he wanted it distinctly understood that he spoke only as a private citizen and real estate man. He deplored the manner in which "cooked and primed indorsements of the universal transfer bill are put through the various civic bodies of the District without study or hearing."

"This phrase of universal transfers is very seductive," he said. "It makes the people think they're going to get something free. Never yet have I heard a single man or organization substantiate its claims as to the justice of the bill proposed."

Mr. Leech was questioned by Congressman Dyer.

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

Low Rates To Florida Via Atlantic Coast Line, March 19th. Round trip to Tampa, St. Petersburg, and Fort Myers, \$25.00; St. Augustine, \$28.00; Palm Beach, \$31.00. Limit 25 days. Corresponding low rates to other Southern points. Office, 1119 N. Y. Ave.—Adv.



DEPUTY SHERIFF'S POSSE IN FRONT OF COURT HOUSE

FOURTEEN KILLED BY EXPLOSION OF LOCOMOTIVE BOILER

Roundhouse of Southern
Pacific Wrecked at San
Antonio.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 18.—Fourteen men are known to have been killed and a score injured today when the explosion of a locomotive boiler wrecked the roundhouse of the Southern Pacific railroad here. Parts of the bodies were blown several hundred feet by the explosion.

Southern Pacific officials say four are known to be dead, while other estimates run as high as twenty-five or thirty.

Belt Buys Fredonia Hotel From Company

Alvin G. Belt, president of the real estate company, Belt, O'Brien & Co., is the new owner of the New Fredonia Hotel on 11 street, between Thirtieth and Fourteenth streets northwest. The property was transferred to him this morning from the hotel company for a nominal consideration, but subject to a trust of \$150,000.

It is understood this transfer settles the financial difficulties of the Fredonia Hotel Company. The second trust holders recently sought to sell the property at auction, but the sale was prevented a few hours before the time. The second trust was for \$100,000 and the first for \$50,000. The new owner takes over the whole property subject to these incumbrances.

The New Fredonia was remodeled about a year ago at large cost.

Millionaire Appeals

C. D. Hillman, millionaire Seattle realty dealer, appealed to the Supreme Court from his recent conviction in the Federal courts of fraudulent use of the mails. The Government filed notice of objection to Hillman's application for a review.

Smith's resignation to accept the Senatorship, announces his gubernatorial candidacy.

MINERS EXPECT STRIKE.

SHAMOKIN, Pa., March 18.—That the miners here expect a general strike was shown when 800 of them, employed by the Mineral Railroad Mining Company, quit because the company refused to sell them pea coal. The Scott shaft was completely tied up. The unrest is spreading and other mines in the vicinity will probably be affected.

ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 18.—John M. Slason, president of the State senate, who served as governor following Hoke

POSSES CLOSE IN ON CONVICT-MURDERERS

Trio That Killed Nebraska Penitentiary Guards Is Believed
Near Capture.

OMAHA, Neb., March 18.—A posse of twenty policemen is close behind the three murderous convicts who escaped from the State penitentiary at Lincoln. The convicts are in a wagon, coming toward Albion. They are heavily armed. A desperate battle is considered certain.

The hunt shifted today to Murdock, a station twenty miles east of Lincoln on the Rock Island railroad, and armed posses are hot on the trail. A general merchandise store at Murdock was robbed last night by the prison murderers. The thieves helped themselves to complete outfits of clothing, including overcoats, and carried off rifles, revolvers, and cartridges.

A sack, found near the railroad station contained overalls, shirts, and a pair of prison shoes.

After the Murdock robbery the fugitives seized a hand car in the section house and started eastward over the Rock Island railroad toward South Omaha.

At 10:30 o'clock the fugitives had been traced to the Platte River valley, near Meadow, ten miles northeast of Murdock. The convicts had ditched their hand-car and were on foot when sighted by farmers.

Towns to the north of Meadow are turning out posses and every road leading toward South Omaha will be closely watched. The convicts, now armed with automatic pistols and rifles, are certain to wage a desperate battle when cornered.

U. S. Supreme Court Adjourns to April 1

Chief Justice White today announced resignations of United States circuit court jurisdiction of the justices upon the elevation of Justice Pitney as follows: First circuit, Justice Holmes; Second circuit, Justice Hughes; Third circuit, Justice Pitney; Fourth circuit, Chief Justice White; Fifth circuit, Justice Lamar; Sixth circuit, Justice Day; Seventh circuit, Justice Lurion; Eighth circuit, Justice Vandewater; Ninth circuit, Justice McKenna.

The court took a recess today until April 1.

AMERICAN MARINES SEIZE A CUSTOMS HOUSE IN CHINA

Monitor Monterey Is Swept
by Chinese Bullets at
Swatow.

SWATOW, China, March 18.—American marines took possession of the customs house here today following a long battle between the native bandits and loyal troops. The United States Monitor Monterey and a Japanese cruiser were within the zone of fire and were swept by rifle bullets several times. A Japanese sailor was badly wounded and died soon afterward.

The American marines will retain the customs house until order has been restored. The casualties in today's fighting were heavy.

PEKING, March 18.—Fighting broke out in the native city between loyalists and military mutineers today. The firing was easily heard in the legation quarter, and it was feared presaged further trouble. The augmented legation guard is ready to meet any situation that may arise. The guards at the entrances to the compounds have been troubled, and the crews of the machine guns are constantly at their posts.

Seek Lunatic as Sender of Bombs

NEW YORK, March 18.—Convinced they have a dangerous lunatic to deal with, the police today started with renewed determination to search for the person who on Saturday sent a bomb to Judge Otto A. Rosalsky. They are now convinced the bomb was made and sent by the same person that recently sent one through the mails to Mrs. Helen Taylor, blowing her to pieces. They are also satisfied that other bombs will be sent and have warned everyone receiving suspicious looking packages to have them opened by explosive experts.

Judge Rosalsky was in a state of collapse today over his narrow escape. Egan, the expert, who lost two fingers while examining the bomb, will recover.

STEAMER AGROUND IN FOG.

BALTIMORE, March 18.—The steamer City of Norfolk of the Chesapeake Steamship Company ran aground during a fog in the Chesapeake bay, near Thomas Point. After working her engines in an effort to free herself the boat sent out wireless calls for aid. The sea-going tug Columbia took off the seventy passengers and brought them to Baltimore. Two other tugs have gone to the assistance of the steamer, and expect to float her at high tide this afternoon.

CUMMINS BILL IN FOR PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY FOR 1912

If Passed Soon Measure
Would Do Away With
National Conventions.

Senator Cummins of Iowa introduced in the Senate this afternoon a comprehensive bill for a Presidential primary law.

If the bill as drafted were to go into effect within the next few months it would do away with the national conventions that are to be held this year for the nomination of Presidential candidates.

The bill is the outgrowth of the abuses which obtain in the present situation wherein the Taft Administration is seeking to force its perpetuation through use of Federal patronage and White House influence and of similar abuses which have obtained in past Presidential contests.

The bill provides that every nomination of a candidate or candidates for the offices of President or Vice President of the United States and of the candidates or candidates for the office of elector of the President and Vice President, made by any political party, shall be made in a primary election to be held in the several States. The date of such election is the second Monday in July, 1912, and the second Monday in July every four years thereafter.

It is made unlawful under penalties to participate in the proceedings of any caucus, convention or meeting for the purpose of nominating the candidates covered by this measure except by and through the primary election. While the bill provides for a primary election, it does not prohibit the use of caucuses, however, that such legislation will come in the near future and will be in force in subsequent campaigns.

The candidate for President who has received the highest number of votes in the United States is to be the nominee of his party and similarly as to the nomination for Vice President.

One of Crew Saved When Vessel Founders

LONDON, March 18.—The British steamer North Briton foundered in the Gulf of Genoa today, and only one member of the crew was saved, according to a dispatch from Spezia to Lloyd's.

PITNEY TAKES PLAGE ON SUPREME BENCH

Former Chancellor of New Jersey Sworn Into High Office.

The vacant chair on the Supreme Court bench was filled today by Mahlon Pitney, former chancellor of New Jersey, who took his seat today.

Usual formalities marked Pitney's elevation. He took two oaths of office and was given the seat on the extreme left of Chief Justice White, adjoining Justice Van Devanter.

Mrs. Pitney and the children and other relatives of the new associate justice were present in the court.

Chief Justice White administered the oath in the judge's private chamber, and Clerk McKenna administered the other oath to the new justice in the open court.

Justice Pitney marched in last of the justices and took a seat by Clerk McKenna until he took the oath. He put on his glasses and read the oath, grasping the ancient time-dimmed Bible used for 100 years in court.

Upon ascending the bench Justice Van Devanter shook hands with Justice Pitney, and the other justices bowed.

Justice Pitney succeeds the late Justice John M. Harlan, who died several months ago. He is the fifth justice of the present court appointed by President Taft.

ALLEN ALLIES NEARLY IN NET OF FELTS' MEN

Sidna Edwards, Nephew of
Outlaws, and His Band
Kept on Run.

THEIR MOONSHINE STILLS CAPTURED

State Authorities May Order
Troops to Rout Desperadoes
From Cave.

HILLSVILLE, Va., March 18.—A mountaineer rode into town today and quickened the pulse of fear-ridden Hillsville by reporting that Lee Felts and a posse of eighteen other detectives are beating the brush about the western end of Fancy Gap and are closing in on another of the Allen gang.

The member of the gang now said to be at bay is Sidna Edwards, nephew of the outlaw Allen brothers, against whom there is an indictment of murder.

Edwards may be captured this morning, but he is but one of a score of Allen henchmen who must be corralled before peace will be restored in the mountains and the court house tragedy of last Thursday avenged.

Mrs. Floyd Allen Surprised.

When the detectives posse visited Floyd Allen's home last night Mrs. Allen told them it was the biggest surprise of her life to hear of the shooting up of Carroll county courthouse.

"Floyd promised me that he would take his punishment like a man. He has never deceived me before, so I cannot believe that he knew of any prearranged scheme to deliver him by shooting up the court officials."

Officials of the Citizens' Bank of Carroll have been notified by State authorities not to recognize any checks drawn against the bank account of Sidna Allen, and no deeds or bills of sale of any of his real or personal property will be recognized by the court. This is done to cripple the Allen clan financially if possible and can be done under the Virginia law which allows heirs of murdered persons a claim for \$15,000 against the estate of the murderers.

The widow of Commonwealth's Attorney W. F. Foster, who was slain in the melee Thursday, visited the building in the late afternoon yesterday, accompanied by her brother, Dr. James Tipton, and her brother-in-law, Isaac C. Foster. Mrs. Foster became hysterical when she looked at the spot where her husband was shot to death.

Another conspicuous visitor was the big genial clerk, Dexter Goad, who is rapidly recovering from his wounds and other injuries. He could not free himself from hundreds of friends who insisted upon inspecting the thirteen holes in the suit of clothing worn by the clerk.

Will Never Surrender.

"Sid Allen will never surrender," is the emphatic prediction of R. L. Jones, of Mt. Airy, N. C., county deputy sheriff, who rode into Hillsville today. "The other members of his gang may finally give in, but Sid never will. I do not believe he has left Carroll county. He is hiding within ten miles of the court house, and will be heard from soon. I believe he intends to wear out the posse chasing and hunting through the mountains, and then he will at his leisure remove his family to another State. Sid is a prince among his friends; a kind, generous husband and father. I believe Floyd started this trouble and then the others joined in because of their strong clanish feeling. Floyd must have let himself be carried away by a violent fit of conscience, and did not realize the consequences. Sid's family are greatly distressed by the shooting up of the court officials."

Another new sensation was exploded by Sheriff Jones when he said that two boys, one of whom has been captured, and not the Allens nor the Edwards robbed the store at Mt. Airy.

At a meeting of the local bar attorney (Continued on Second Page.)

IN CONGRESS TODAY

SENATE.
Senate met at 2 o'clock.
Senator Simmons addressed Senate in behalf of educational test for immigrants.
Senator Cummins introduces Presidential primary bill.
Judge Haney's brief on facts in Lorimer case arrives.
Judiciary Committee considers compensation measure.

HOUSE.
House met at noon.
Debate on excise tax bill resumed.
Congressman Littleton defended measure as constitutional.
Investigation of Ray case continued.
District Committee held hearing on universal transfer bill.

Last Minute News Told in Brief

MILLIONAIRE FOUND DEAD.

CHICAGO, March 18.—William C. Seipp, millionaire head of the Seipp Brewing Company, was found dead in bed at his home, 1546 Dearborn avenue. He was shot through the head. The police were called to investigate the tragedy, and announced they believed it a case of suicide. Seipp had been ill for several months.

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